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NBA ROOKS: DIARIES … TYLER ENNIS

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*By **Tyler Ennis**, for NBA.com*

What a whirlwind the last few months have been for me. I hardly had time to reflect on my freshman season at Syracuse before I was already making one of the biggest decisions of my life — whether or not to declare for the NBA Draft. I spent a lot of time with my family talking about the pros and cons of my different options, and we decided together the time was right for me to test my skills at the professional level.

It was really tough to leave Syracuse. I fell in love with the school and had a great bond with the coaches and players. I am so grateful I was able to play with and contribute to such a talented team, I had so much fun this past year. Not being there through summer and next year will be tough, but I think everyone has the same dream going into college. When you get the opportunity to see it through, you have to go for it.

As much as I loved school, I was really looking forward to being to focus on just basketball and nothing else as part of the draft process. I am training out in Long Island, away from everything, and all I have to worry about in the next month are workouts and getting in shape for the draft. Every single day I am working towards one goal.

My favorite thing so far has been having the chance to get to know guys I have been playing against my whole life. There are four others out in Long Island with me – **Melvin Ejim**, **LaQuinton Ross**, **Khem Birch** and **Noah Vonleh** – and we spend a lot of time together on and off the court. It's really nice to have guys

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around that are going through the same thing as you.

As you can imagine, it does get pretty tiring at times. We have time to rest, but between travel, NBA team workouts and then three-a-days in Long Island, it is easy to get fatigued. I really try to balance my body and allow it to get the rest it needs so I can be at my peak performance when it counts.

So now the draft is about three weeks away and my excitement builds exponentially every day. I'll be finishing up a couple of more team workouts, then coming back to New York to continue training right up until June 26. Draft prep doesn't just happen on the court, though, and I'll be working with a stylist on my suit for that night. I have to make sure I'm looking my best when I walk across the stage to shake the NBA Commissioner's hand!

Keep up with everything I'm doing leading up to the Draft and beyond at Draftdreams.com and @draftdreams and on my Twitter @tdot_ennis and Instagram @tdot11

Tyler Ennis, a 6-foot-3 point guard from Syracuse, was born in Brampton, Ontario, Canada. He is projected to be picked in the lottery in the NBA Draft on June 26.

Look for more "NBA Rooks: Diaries …" all season long on the All Ball blog.

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